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REDS BOOM MEMOIRS OF U.S. DEFECTOR

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — United States intelligence officials suggested privately today that the Soviet government was publicizing the memoirs of "John Smith," an alleged American defector from the Central Intelligence Agency, to offset world publicity about the recent defection of a senior Soviet intelligence official, Yevgeny Y. Runge.

Spokesmen for the government's intelligence community said that a check of their files showed no evidence that anyone of that name had been employed by the U.S. intelligence. A spokesman for the Federal Bureau of Investigation added that Smith "was never an employe of the bureau."

There were indications, however, that a John Smith had been employed by the State Department as a junior clerk in the U.S. embassy in New Delhi. Qualified informants, however, emphasized that Smith had had no connection with intelligence work, said he had later turned Communist and after considerable wandering had ended up in the Soviet Union.